

interoffice
MEMORANDUM

To: Commissioner Randy Christmann
 Commissioner Julie Fedorchak
 Commissioner Brian Kroshus

From: Sara Cardwell, Public Utility Analyst

SC

Subject: PU-15-801 ONEOK Bakken Pipeline, L.L.C., 8-Inch NGL Pipeline – McKenzie and Dunn Counties
 Tree and Shrub Replacement Plan

Date: April 5, 2017

On April 4, 2017, ONEOK Bakken Pipeline, L.L.C., filed a tree and shrub replacement plan in compliance with the Commission’s Order and the Certification Relating to Order Provisions, Transmission Facility Siting with accompanying Tree and Shrub Mitigation Specifications that the Company signed for this project.

The table below summarizes the information provided by the Company in its report.

2017 Planting	Removed	Planting	2 to 1 Ratio	75% Survival
Trees				
Replant on Landowner's Property	214	642	428	321
Shrubs				
Replant on Landowner's Property	3,970	11,910	7,940	5,955
Totals	4,184	12,552	8,368	6,276
2018 Planting				
Trees				
Replant by Soil Conservation District	1,867	5,601	3,734	2,801
Shrubs				
Replant by Soil Conservation District	4,763	14,289	9,526	7,145
Totals	6,630	19,890	13,260	9,946

The replacement species for the 2017 spring planting were reviewed by Company contractors as well as the McKenzie and Dunn Counties Soil Conservation Districts. The replacement species are considered suitable to North Dakota growing conditions and are commonly recommended for plantings. Note that the Company is planting at a three to one ratio to better ensure they will meet the 75 percent survival rate that is required after three years.

For the 2018 plantings, neither the species or locations have been identified yet. The plantings will be done by the McKenzie County Soil Conservation District. Once the locations are identified, the species that will be best suited to identified planting locations will be chosen and planted. The plantings will occur over the two year period because the Company was not anticipating that such a high number of landowners would not want replacement trees on their properties. As a result, it is taking the Company more time than originally anticipated to find locations for close to 20,000 trees. Note too that the Company indicated that depending on the locations chosen for the 2018 plantings, they may not need to plant at a three to one ratio to better ensure survivability.

At this time, a motion to approve the Company's 2017 planting will be on the agenda for your consideration at the April 13, 2017 Commission meeting. The Company will file additional information for the 2018 planting at a later date which will reviewed for compliance at that time.